(b) whether NIRD undertakes training of elected Panchayati Raj functionaries;

(c) whether there are plans to expand activities of NIRD; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR); (a) The National Institute of Rural Development in close Coordination with the Ministry of Rural Development is playing an important role in making the new Panchayati Raj System a success. It has also interalia been associated with consultations on the drafting of the 73rd Constitution Amendment Bill, framing or State Legislations, training and the preparation of reference material.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Institute intends to organise additional training programmes for elected representatives of Panchayati Raj bodies. The NIRD is planning to expand its training network to create awareness among grassroot leaders for Panchayati Raj and microlevel planners. The NIRD has already conducted 19 Training of Trainers (TOT) programmes in Panchayati Raj and plans to conduct additional programmes during the current year.

Amount for SC/ST Areas for Development Scheme

3238. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount sanctioned for development schemes in Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe areas under Block Development Offices have to be spent for these areas only;

(b) whether Government are aware that amount of Rs. 50,000/—sanctioned under Cheque No. 028071 dated 26th March, 1994 by BDO, Khair, Aligarh Block, for Development of SC and ST area of village Mirpur Dahora was spent in non-SC and non-ST areas by Pradhan of this village;

(c) whether on complaint from villagers the BDO made an enquiry on 23rd April, 1994 and he submitted his report to CDO, Aligarh under No. 1700 on 3rd May, 1994;

(d) whether as per enquiry report any action has been taken against village Pradhan for spending sanctioned Rs. 50,000/- in other areas and thus depriving sheduled Caste areas; and

(e) what further action is being taken to ensure that SC and ST areas of village Mirpur Dahora get the benefit of the sanctioned amount?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) to (e) The necessary information is being collected from the State Govt, and shall be laid on the table of the House.

पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार कार्यक्रम

3239. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार कार्यक्रमों को कार्यान्वित किया गया है, यदि हां, तो उन राज्यों के नाम क्या हैं तथा इस कार्यक्रम को कब से कार्यान्वित किया गया है;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है तथा क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों के कई ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों और विशेषकर आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में लोग भुखमरी से त्रस्त हैं तथा इससे निजात पाने के लिए वे अपने बच्चे सरकारी अधिकारियों तथा अन्य व्यक्तियों को बेच देते हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार के पास इस संबंध में कोई आंकड़े हैं तथा आदिवासियों की इस बदहाली/भुखमरी के लिए कौन जिम्मेदार है; और

(घ) सरकार द्वारा संबंधित राज्यों के आदिवासियों को राष्ट्रीय रोजगार योजना के अंतर्गत रोजगार उपलब्ध कराने तथा उन्हें भूखमरी से भी बचाने के लिए तत्काल क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है तथा कब तक?

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय (ग्रामीण विकास विभाग) में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर ठाकुर): (क) राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार कार्यक्रम तथा ग्रामीण भूमिहीन रोजगार गारंटी कार्यक्रम को मिलाकर दिनांक 1.4.89 से एक ही योजना जवाहर रोजगार योजना बना दिया गया है। जवाहर रोजगार योजना उत्तर पूर्वी राज्यों सहित देश के सभी ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कार्यान्वित की जा रही है।

(ख) और (ग) उत्तर-पूर्वी राज्यों में भुखमरी अथवा बच्चों के बेचने का कोई मामला भारत सरकार की नजर में नहीं आया है।

(घ) उत्तरी-पूर्वी राज्यों में आदिवासियों को रोजगार मुहैया कराने के लिए इन राज्यों को जवाहर रोजगार योजना के अंतर्गत काफी आवंटन किए गए हैं।

ग्रामीण गरीबों को गैर-कृषि मौसम के दौरान 100 दिन का अकुशल शारीरिक श्रम का सुनिश्चित रोजगार मुहैया कराने के अतिरिक्त सरकार ने 2.10.93 से पुनर्गठित सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अंतर्गत कवर किए गए देश के 1778 पिछड़े खण्डों में सुनिश्चित रोजगार योजना आरम्भ की है। इन खण्डों में अन्य खण्डों के साथ वे खण्ड भी शामिल हैं जहां आदिवासी जनसंख्या अधिक है।

Integrated Rural Development Programme in Maharashtra

3240. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that benefits under Integrated Rural Development Programme do not properly reach the beneficiaries, particularly to SC/STs in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to overcome these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOP-MENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) Data available for 1993-94 show that 217.7 thousand families were assisted under IRDP in Maharashtra of which 91.7 thousand families belonged to SC/ ST category. Generally, there have been no complaints that benefits are not reaching properly.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Several steps have been taken to ensure that benefits under IRDP reach eligible beneficiaries, especially SC/ST families in all states including Maharashtra. The ceiling on IRDP subsidy is the highest for SC/ST families at 50% of the cost of the project subject to a maximum of Rs. 6000. Some additional steps have been taken recently to enhance benefits accruing to IRDP beneficiaries. These include raising of per family investment level, extension of family credit plan for more intensified dosage of assistance and revision of infrastructure norms to improve the productivity of IRDP investments.

Involvement of Corporate Sector to Reclaim Wastelands

3241. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to involve corporate sector on its different sectors to reclaim wastelands in the country.

(b) if so, the various incentives proposed to be granted to the corporate sector for the purpose; and

(c) the reaction of the Corporate sector thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT) (COL. RAO RAM SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have finalised the Investment Promotional Scheme to facilitate/attract/chanelise/mobilise resources from Financial Institutions, Banks, Corporate Bodies including User Industries and other Entrepreneurs for Development of Wastelands in non-forest areas belonging to Central and State Governments, Panchayats, Village Communities, Private Farmers etc.

(b) The various incentives available under this scheme for the corporate sector include:

(i) Central assistance by way of promotional grant/promotional subsidy limited to Rs. 25 lakhs or 25% fo the total cost of a